

News Release

initial enrollment { 96 med. students
64 dental
ultimately - 800-900



New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry

24 BALDWIN AVENUE

JERSEY CITY, N. J. 07304

FOR RELEASE: Friday,
August 26, 1966

The three national leaders in medical education serving as the Site Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry have recommended unanimously the relocation of the College to a site in Madison and Chatham Township, New Jersey, on the estate presently owned by Mrs. Marcellus Hartley Dodge.

The recommendations were made by Dr. Vernon W. Lippard, Dean of the Yale University School of Medicine; Dr. James M. Faulkner, President of the National Foundation for Medical Education and former Dean of the Boston University School of Medicine; and Dr. Donald G. Anderson, Dean of the University of Rochester School of Medicine.

Each of the advisers made his own recommendation based on a series of visits in the Spring to five separate sites and professional familiarity with a sixth site in the northeastern metropolitan section of New Jersey.

The recommendations were submitted to the Board's Committee on Future Operations and Relocation headed by Trustee Paul A. Gorman and including Trustee Dr. Sam S. Barklis. The recommendations are to be acted on by the entire Board.

The move contemplates construction of a teaching hospital for the clinical (third and fourth year) training of the College of Medicine and Dentistry, a facility for basic science (first and second year) instruction of both medical

and dental students, research, library and other facilities for the students and faculty, dormitories and administrative offices. The College would maintain strong clinical affiliations with major hospitals in the area. Major clinical training presently is conducted at Newark City Hospital, the East Orange Veterans Administration Hospital, St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Elizabeth and the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital in Staten Island. At present, the basic science facilities, all activity of the College of Dentistry, and the administrative offices of the College are maintained at the Jersey City Medical Center.

The sites visited were:

1. The Dodge estate in Madison which also extends into Chatham Township. The entire estate includes more than 400 acres.
2. A site of some 100 acres in Teaneck bounded by Teaneck Road, Fycke Lane, Glenwood Avenue, deGrau Avenue and Ft. Lee Road.
3. A site in Newark containing more than 60 acres and possibly an additional 30 acres adjacent to Newark City Hospital.
4. The Kean estate in Union with 80 to 100 acres.
5. A site near St. Barnabas Hospital in Livingston with 100 acres.

Through past professional activity, each of the advisers was familiar with the facilities at the Jersey City Medical Center.

Dr. Lippard summarized his recommendation of the Dodge estate, saying, "This would provide an ample area for construction of medical and dental schools, a university hospital, dormitory, parking spaces, and associated health facilities, all of which cannot be visualized at present but are certain to be attracted."

He continued, "the site is adjacent to densely populated areas and in an area where rapid population growth is anticipated. A source of patients is thereby assured. It should be noted that, in view of social and economic trends, location of medical schools in slum districts is no longer considered appropriate.

"The site is readily accessible from all parts of the State by major highways, existing or planned.

"The area is attractive and the availability of residential sites nearby would encourage recruitment of faculty and students."

The Yale dean also raised the possibility of future nearby development of a state university unit with which the medical and dental colleges could be affiliated and noted "location of health schools on a university campus strengthen the entire program in the biological, physical and social sciences. Existing liberal arts colleges in the neighborhood would contribute to the development of an academic community."

Dr. Lippard added: "Construction could be started without the delay entailed in redevelopment of an urban area." He also noted that "auxiliary clinical facilities, such as the Veterans Administration Hospital in East Orange, are within reasonable distances" and that "nearby pharmaceutical, chemical and electronic industries would provide opportunities for collaborative research."

In a supplementary letter, elaborating on the committee's support of a suburban over an urban site, Dr. Lippard wrote:

"Although many of the older medical schools are located in large cities, the trend is toward development of new schools in suburban areas or small communities. Many factors have influenced this trend, among them the following:

- "1. The desirability of intimate association with other divisions of a university or related educational and research institutions.
- "2. Availability of space for expansion, parking, and location of auxiliary facilities and related health and educational institutions.
- "3. Avoidance of construction of monolithic hospital and laboratory facilities which are difficult to expand or alter with changing scientific, service, and educational demands.

"4. Attraction of faculty and staff to an area where living conditions are favorable.

"5. Termination of dependence on indigent patients from slum areas for clinical instruction. (Medical centers, composed of medical, dental, and other health-related educational, research, and service institutions will be the focal point for referral of patients of all economic and social classes from practicing physicians and community hospitals.)

"It may appear that the amount of land predicted as necessary for location of a new medical center is excessive. When one considers the potential for growth of such an institution and other institutions which will be attracted to the area, it would, in my opinion, be very short-sighted to initiate construction on a site where only immediately foreseeable needs can be accommodated."

Dr. Faulkner reported that his recommendation was based on the following criteria:

- "A. Location -
 - 1. Accessibility
 - 2. Adjacent land use
 - 3. Nearby colleges and universities
 - 4. Proximity to hospital and health service institutions
 - 5. Availability of research units, pharmaceutical, chemical, electronic
- "B. Size and shape -
 - 1. Expansion capability
 - 2. Effect on building costs
 - 3. Fire and police protection
- "C. Local conditions -
 - 1. Community facilities available
 - 2. Favorable governmental and neighborhood sentiment
 - 3. Attractive housing facilities

"In each of the above listed criteria the Dodge estate was superior or equal to the other sites except in 'proximity to hospitals and health service institutions'. In this regard it was rated as 'good' but it was surpassed by St. Barnabas and Newark which rated 'excellent' but was superior to the Kean estate and Teaneck. The overall superiority of the Dodge estate is considerably higher than its nearest competitor which is the St. Barnabas Hospital site."

Dr. Faulkner summed up his description of the Dodge estate with: "This is truly a superb location from almost every point of view."

Dr. Anderson said: "There is no question in my mind that the Dodge property constitutes a most desirable and attractive site for the long range development of an outstanding medical center. There is also no question that of the sites we inspected it is by far the best."

Dr. Anderson also recommended eventual acquisition of the entire Dodge property and possibly additional land. He submitted a list (attached) of institutions and special facilities to be found in modern medical centers in support of land acquisition larger than that immediately required. He added, "While it is unlikely that any single center would encompass all of these institutions and facilities, there are a growing number of medical centers that already include on their campuses many of the institutions and facilities that I have listed."

"Also, looking into the future, it would be very helpful to have sufficient land available to accommodate other academic units of the enlarged state university system that New Jersey will undoubtedly some day develop."

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